

# Dewberry House

*Sexual Assault Referral Centre*

**We listen.  
We hear.  
We can help.**

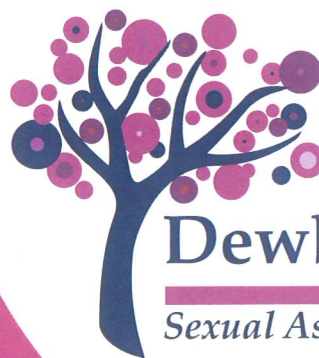
We offer free confidential support and practical help for anyone who has experienced a sexual assault.

We are open 24hrs a day 365 days of the year  
and can be contacted on our

**helpline 01534 888222.**

**[www.dewberryhouse.je](http://www.dewberryhouse.je)**

# What to do when a Child or Young Person discloses Sexual Abuse or Child Sexual Exploitation



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## 1. Stay Calm

**Remain calm.**

Try not to show worry, panic, shock, anger, disbelief etc.

**Say, "I'm glad that you told me"**

Reassure the child that they have done the right thing and they are not in trouble.

**Say, "It's not your fault".**

Abusers often blame their victims, so reassure the child they are not responsible for what happened.

**Say, "I believe you".**

False accusations by children are extremely rare.

**Don't insult the offender.**

Children are protective of people they care about, even their abusers. Your negative response may alter the child's statements.

## 3. Report

If you are worried about the immediate safety of a child, please call the States of Jersey Police on 01534 612612.

If the child is not in immediate danger, then report the incident to the Children and Families Hub on 01534 519000 or email [childrenandfamilieshub@gov.je](mailto:childrenandfamilieshub@gov.je) or States of Jersey Police.

In the event that this incident needs dealing with out of hours, contact the Police by calling 01534 612612 or Dewberry House SARC on 01534 888222 and the CSA pathway will be triggered.

**Don't keep it a secret.** By reporting abuse, we demonstrate that children are valued and worthy of protection. Reporting abuse helps to stop the cycle of abuse.

## 2. Listen

**Listen to the child.**

Be patient. Allow the child to tell you what happened in their own words.

**Don't interrogate.**

The child's statements are the main evidence in a case, so it's important not to "taint" the evidence by asking leading questions or suggesting what might have happened.

**Be aware of your own feelings.**

Try not to project these onto the child.

**Document.**

Keep notes of the conversation and what the child said using their words.

**Tel: 888222**

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